

Brookline Parking Committee

Meeting Summary: October 15, 2008

Attendees: Selectmen Jesse Mermell (Co-Chair), Bill Schwartz (At-Large, Co-Chair), Sgt. Kelleher (Brookline Police), Steve Heikin (Housing Advisory Board), Jeff Levine (Planning Department), Werner Lohe (Conservation Commission), Sean Lynn-Jones (Advisory Committee), Linda Pehlke (At-Large), Mike Sandman (Transportation Board), Peter Furth (Transportation Board), Todd Kirrane (DPW Transportation Division)

Absent: Capt. Michael Gropman (Brookline Police), Jerry Kampler (Planning Board), Hugh Mattison (At-Large), Al Raine (EDAB), Paul Saner (Zoning Bylaw Committee), Myra Trachtenberg (Zoning Bylaw Committee), Hsiu-Lan Chang (Business Representative)

The third meeting of the Brookline Parking Committee was held at Town Hall on October 15, 2008 from 6-8 pm. The meeting summary from September 8 was distributed for review and comment. No comments were received.

The topic was public parking resources. Todd Kirrane distributed Management of the Public Parking Supply in the Town of Brookline. He summarized the roles of the transportation division and the Transportation Board. He presented an overview of the various parking resources, including on- and off-street spaces, and various programs for residents, business, visitors, commuters, and the general public.

Todd also reported that the employee unions representing the police and the parking control officers had agreed to permit the parking control officers to enforce unmetered spaces, which had previously been limited to police officers. This has led to dramatic increases in the number of tickets being issued and seems to have had the desired effect of forcing long-term parkers to find alternate parking elsewhere.

Todd described the pilot program for Pay and Display parking, which is being done on a pilot basis in the Babcock Street lot and the Kent/Webster lot. This new system permits the town to modify hour so of operation and pricing on an as-needed basis.

Co-chair Bill Schwartz distributed a sign-up sheet for committee members to participate in fact finding teams. This will be formalized at the next meeting.

In addition, the agenda for the November meeting was modified to cover green parking strategies instead of commercial parking requirements, which will be covered in the December meeting.